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VHAT'S YOUR

Feeling a little surly today? You're not alone. We asked readers to let us know who and what is bugging them, and here's what we heard. Air your gripes and join all of RedEye's online conversations at facebook.com/theredeve.



Yo Sherry Seathog, do ya think that MAYBE I could use that seat that your bag is occupying, seeing as how you didn't PAY for it to have its own seat?

-Alyssa Croft



Um, Tony Texter? Based on the fact that you just physically ran me down, I have to come to the conclusion that no, you are NOT capable of walking down the street and texting simultaneously.

-Suz Martin



Hey DJ Danny! That's nice that your phone plays music, but there are these cool things called headphones. You put them in your ears so the whole train doesn't have to hear vour music.

-MissZola Arliss



FORECAST

Makes us forget it's practically winter



33

Heavy



36



22

Thanks for not



Can we have the



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Hey Jenny Jaywalker,

get your head out the

light to cross.

-John Campbell

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WEEKEND SEMINAR OFFERS GUYS DATING TIPS—FOR A PRICE

By Leonor Vivanco

REDEYE

The mission: Get digits.

It's harder than it sounds for six singles who signed up for a three-day, \$1,300 boot camp in Chicago this weekend to learn the art of seduction and dating from a professional coach. Run by 29-year-old dating expert Adam Lyons, the workshop focused on topics such as improving body language, learning conversation starters and avoiding first-date mistakes.

Texas-based Lyons, who said he was voted by his classmates as the least likely to get a girlfriend at age 15, is the master trainer and CEO of the North America branch of PUA Training (for pick up artist), a self-help program and website targeted toward single men with locations and events in L.A., New York and London. Lyons and other trainers travel every month to host seminars and workshops for people looking to boost their dating lives. The company was founded in 2006. He said the boot camp is part of a real male self-help movement that's different from what one might get elsewhere.

"Read a men's magazine for advice for what to do with girls," Lyons said Friday during an interview before the workshop. "It's all about how to pull a stripper, how to convince your girlfriend to have a threesome. ... What about how to meet a nice girl? What



about this is a good date? They don't get that advice anywhere."

Men who enrolled in the workshop traveled from all over the Midwest for reasons that ranged from wanting to initiate a serious relationship to meeting new people, Lyons said. This seminar was composed of men interested in women, but Lyons says his program caters to different sexual orientations.

Luke Runyon, 21, of Kalamazoo, Mich., signed up to gain more confidence and conversation skills. "I've never really had a lot of friends," he said. He said he was outside his comfort zone, but added, "If my ap-

ABOVE: Adam and Amanda Lyons demonstrate proper body language when approaching women at a bar. **LEFT:** Notes from the dating class. **LENNY GILMORE PHOTOS FOR REDEYE**

proach anxiety is gone, it'll be well worth the price."

The first night started Friday with lessons in body language and techniques to start conversations. Participants in the workshop, which took place at a rented meeting room in a downtown condo building, learned to initiate conversation by asking basic questions, giving compliments or making observations.

"We kind of think of [meeting new people] like Internet dating," Lyons said. "You might start talking to somebody who's got a good profile but you don't know if there's an actual real connection until the two of you start exchanging e-mails. We bring that online environment into real life. They're going around the bar actually meeting random people and then seeing if there's a real connection once they're talking to them and of course you get better cues in real life."

The culmination of Friday's lesson was a group outing to John Barleycorn in Wrigleyville. Workshop participants went in with the same ground rules: Don't lie and don't drink; they also agreed not to buy drinks for girls or talk to people who were overly served.

All six got phone numbers. Mission accomplished. LVIVANCO@TRIBUNE.COM

Do's & don't's

Adam Lyons, twice voted world's best pick up artist by a panel of professional dating experts, gets personal with RedEye. LEONOR VIVANCO, REDEYE

Q: What is the best conversation starter?

A: The best one-not the easiest, and there's a big difference-the best is what we call the observation. If you observe something new, something random, something out of the ordinary and you start talking about it loud enough and somebody else hears, they start eavesdropping and at that point, they're already in the conversation. Then any question you refer to about it like, "Hey wow, what's going on over here?" thev'll be in. ... Those conversations will always be the best and then you introduce yourself as an afterthought.

Q: What's the worst place to meet guys and girls?

A: Family restaurants.

Anywhere where families are going to be going is going to be bad news really because people are not in the right kind of zone where they want to be picked up.

Q: When setting up the first date, should you text or call?

A: Do it in person. Then when I'm texting you, we're just handling the logistics of the meet-up.

Q: If you don't do that?

A: Then text is better than phoning just because you never know if someone is going to be free to pick up the phone. What we actually teach is to ask the girl what's the best way of staying in touch so again she gets to say what she wants.



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Elite

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The blind date is now extinct

This is a column about Internet dating, which I don't do and never plan to try.

However, I also don't think it's such a bad idea. Certainly, there's a stigma associated with joining any online dating site. Initial prejudices pop up immediately: Web daters can't meet someone in real life, they're socially inept, they have to resort to exchanging e-mails with pictures they might find attractive.

But I'll point out the obvious, which is that trying to find a significant other with similar interests, politics and tastes via the Internet makes way more basic sense than going to a dark bar and staring at someone for half an hour while you get drunk enough to approach him or her, at which point you totally don't care if they collect Nazi paraphernalia—you kind of just want to make out on a barstool.

I also have the pleasure of knowing three or four couples who met online and are great together. It would be a shame if they'd let those prejudices stop them from dating online. Yet, let's not kid ourselves: The reason a site such as **match.com** works is because everyone who is on there might as well have "Tired of Making Out on Barstools, Ready to Settle Down" tattooed on their faces. They are psychologically predisposed to meeting someone and "falling in love."

The flip side is a free site such as **okcupid.com**, which is a total Get Laid site. It's a Get Laid site because it's free. You'll know when someone is serious when they upgrade to Match.

So why not date online? For an assignment to cover a speed-dating event, I had to register with a dating site and it took two weeks to get my profile deleted afterward. Those sites' tentacles all have disgusting barbs. The Internet has become a social hemisphere, which you must spend almost as much time maintaining as you do your actual life.

Also, my forehead tattoo still is "Enjoy Hanging Out With Dudes Way Too Much" (in hindsight, that was an ill-conceived phrase).

Of course, I'm being willfully disingenuous about Web dating right now. In the Facebook age, we're all Internet daters. The very notion of a blind date is extinct. Before committing to a one-on-one social situation, you have to get a rudimentary idea of body type and ensure she doesn't attend "country night" or take Ayn Rand seriously.

Going out with someone whom you've not thoroughly scrutinized online is like walking into a minefield while a guy stands beside you with a map that shows where all the mines are saying, "Hey, you should really take this map." And you're all, "No, I like the surprise of having my leg violently amputated."

Whoa. That would be a great forehead tattoo. STEPHEN MARKLEY IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

CORRECTION

Eleaven Food Company is closed Thanksgiving Day. A Metromix story Tuesday listed incorrect hours for preordered dessert pickups.



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chicago



It is illegal for diesel vehicles to idle for more than three minutes, yet city officials have written just 34 tickets for the violation. ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE

Idle controversy

Tribune probe finds violations of city's at-rest laws for diesel vehicles

Chicago Tribune

Idling diesel-powered vehicles for more than three minutes is illegal in Chicago, yet the Tribune observed dozens of violations during the past three months. The fumes are more than an acrid nuisance; testing by the newspaper found the amount of lung- and heart-damaging soot in the air next to idling buses soared up to 30 times higher than normal street levels.

Though Mayor Daley promotes the anti-idling law as an example of how he's made Chicago one of the nation's greenest cities, city officials have written only 34 tickets for excessive idling, according to records obtained by the Tribune under the Freedom of Information Act.

More than five years after state legislators passed an anti-idling law and a year after Chicago enacted its own, tougher version, Chicago Police officers haven't written a single ticket for violating the law, records show.

As a result, people routinely are exposed to bursts of toxic air pollution as they walk past idling tour buses, delivery trucks and other dieselpowered vehicles.

Only two suburbs, Oak Park and Wilmette, report writing tickets for violating the Illinois anti-idling law, according to a state survey. Half of the communities that responded said diesel idling isn't an issue.

"These laws are useless if they aren't enforced," said Chicago Ald. Brendan Reilly (42nd), who pushed for the idling limits in response to complaints about diesel pollution near hotels, condo buildings, schools and tourist attractions. "The only way we are going to get the attention of these drivers is by handing out tickets and making them appear in court."

Backed by health groups and embraced by poli-

ticians and companies seeking to burnish their green credentials, anti-idling policies have become popular in recent years. The Daley administration promoted the idea during the city's unsuccessful bid for the 2016 Olympics, promising it would help clean up Chicago's chronically dirty air and encourage companies to save fuel.

City officials said they've spent the past year educating fleet operators about the law and training city workers to limit idling.

They have posted warning signs in about a dozen spots where buses congregate, including outside the Adler Planetarium, River North theme restaurants and City Hall.

"The word is getting out," said Suzanne Malec-McKenna, the city's environment commissioner. "We've given the fleet operators fair warning about the rules and what we're expecting from them."

DuSable Museum founder dies

Margaret Burroughs, the principal founder of the DuSable Museum of African American History on the South Side, died Sunday at 95. The museum was named after Jean Baptiste Point du Sable regarded as Chicago's first permanent resident—in 1961.

5 win prestigious scholarships

Five students with Chicagoland connections—one from Chicago, one from Evanston and three from the University of Chicago—were named Rhodes Scholars on Sunday. All of the students will enter Oxford University in October.

Man killed after Metra collision

A man was killed Sunday after being struck by a northbound Metra train near the Rogers Park station. The incident involved a train that had left the Ogilvie Transportation Center downtown at 10:35 a.m.

Braun kicks off mayor campaign

Former U.S. Sen. Carol Moseley Braun said Sunday that if she's elected Chicago mayor, she will work to make sure all neighborhoods are represented. She announced her bid for mayor nearly a week after she filed petitions to run.

500

More than 1,800 American elms once graced Grant Park. Only a fraction of them-roughly 500-remain after decades of exposure to disease and other city hazards, according to Openlands, a nonprofit organization that helps protect natural and open spaces. This week. the organization expects to finish the first phase of cataloging and mapping the park's elms and infection-resistant hybrids that have replaced them.



Group: Plot cost \$4,200

A recent terror operation involving parcel bombs on UPS and FedEx flights cost just \$4,200, according to a report in a magazine that analysts say is published by al-Qaida's branch in Yemen.

4 dead in Florida home

Four people, including three children, were found dead inside a home in a peaceful, family-oriented Florida neighborhood Saturday outside Tallahassee, police said, A medical examiner was working to determine the cause of the deaths.

Hikers' trial postponed

A trial for two American hikers held in Iran has been postponed until Feb. 6. their attorney said Sunday. According to officials in Iran, the court summoned the two, but they did not

Uranium enrichment reported in North Korea

4 A State Department team was traveling to South Korea on Sunday, after a U.S. scientist reported that North Korea has a new uranium enrichment facility. North Korean officials said the facility is operating and producing low-enriched uranium.

Report: iPad paper in works

Media mogul Rupert Murdoch is developing a digital newspaper exclusively for the iPad and other electronic tablet devices, according to the Women's Wear Daily website.

Man rescued after spending days in shaft

A Chinese man was rescued Sunday after spending 80 hours in a steel shaft that sunk 59 feet underwater, China's official Xinhua news agency reported Monday. The worker became stuck Thursday while working in the shaft on China's east coast.



Pope: Condom use OK in some circumstances

VATICAN CITY Liberal Catholics, AIDS activists and health officials on Sunday welcomed Pope Benedict's comments that using condoms may sometimes be justified to stop the spread of the disease.

"It is a marvelous victory for common sense and reason, a major step forward towards recognizing that condom use can play a vital role in reducing the future impact of the HIV pandemic," said Jon O'Brien, head of the U.S. group Catholics for Choice.

The pope spoke out in a new book to be published Tuesday called "Light of the World: The Pope, the Church, and the Sign of the Times." In the 219-page book the pope also speaks frankly about the possibility that he could resign for health reasons and defends wartime pontiff Pius XII against Jewish accusations that he turned a blind eye to the Holocaust.

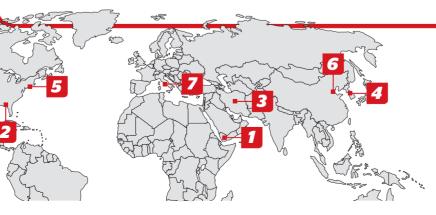
He says scandals of sexual abuse of minors by priests were "an unprecedented shock" even though he had followed the issue for years, and says he can understand why people might quit the church in protest.

But it is the section on condoms in the book—a long interview with German Catholic journalist Peter Seewald-that marked a crack in the once tightly shut door of church policy.

He cites the example of the use of condoms by prostitutes as "a first step towards moralization," even though condoms are "not really the way to deal with the evil of HIV infection."

The original German text and the French and English versions of the book refer to a male prostitute, but an excerpt in Italian in the Vatican newspaper cites a female pros-

While some Catholic leaders and theologians have spoken about the limited use of condoms to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS as the lesser of two evils, this is the first time the pope has mentioned the possibility.



THE DIGIT

Freezing rain and ice-covered roads made for a treacherous Saturday night in Minnesota, where more than 370 crashes were reported, most of them in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, officials said Sunday. One person was killed.



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sports

Good news, bad news, Bears

Besides Green Bay winning and moving into a tie with the Bears for first in the NFC North, there were several other games that directly affected the Bears and their postseason chances. Here they are and what they mean for Chicago. REDEYE

Philadelphia beats N.Y. Giants

The Eagles' win gives them the NFC East lead at 7-3 and knocks the Giants down to 6-4 and into the wild-card chase with the Bears.

Atlanta beats St. Louis

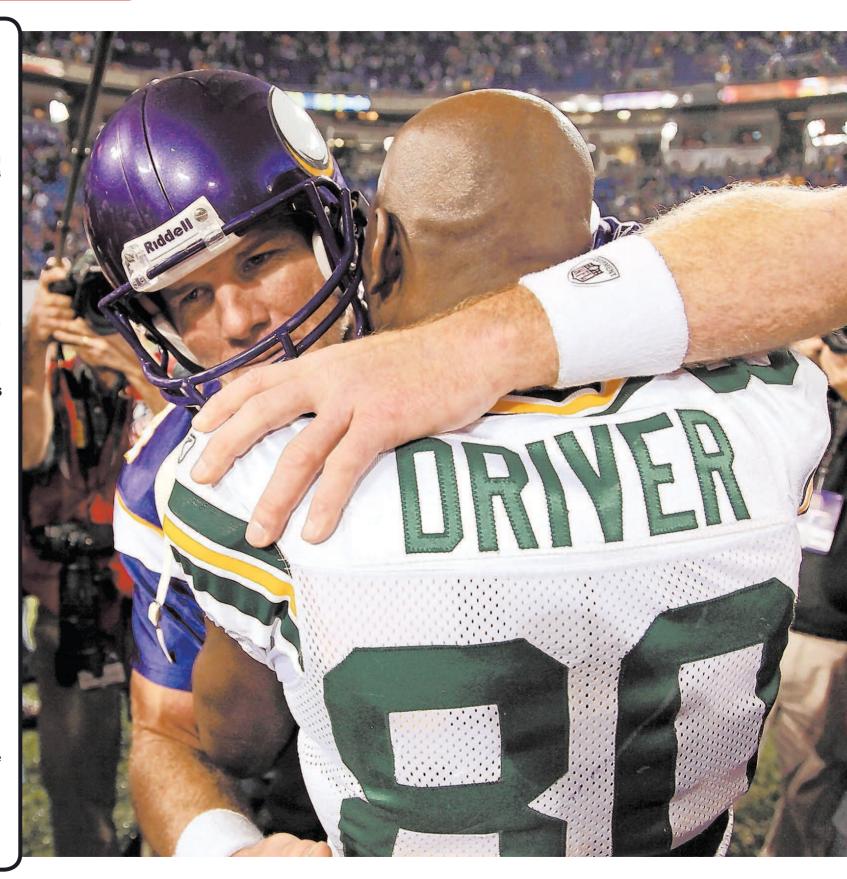
At 8-2, the Falcons are the team with the best record in the NFC. At this rate, the Bears want them to keep winning, because the Falcons face Green Bay, Tampa Bay, New Orleans and Seattle, teams the Bears would like to see lose.

New Orleans beats Seattle

The Saints' win moves them to 7-3 to help them keep pace with the leaders of the NFC South, but it also keeps them in the race for an NFC wild-card berth, which the Bears will be counting on if they don't win the NFC North. The Seattle loss, though, is a good thing. Now at 5-5, the Seahawks are behind the Bears in the wild-card chase.

Tampa Bay beats San Francisco

The Bears probably would have liked to see the 49ers hand the Buccaneers a loss, but no dice. At 7-3, the Bucs are a threat to take a wild-card spot from the Bears



NFL SCORES

BALTIMORE 37	BUFFALO 49	DETROIT 19	CLEVELAND 20	ARIZONA 13	HOUSTON 27	OAKLAND 3	WASHINGTON 19
CAROLINA 13	CINCINNATI 31	DALLAS 35	JACKSONVILLE 24	KANSAS CITY 31	N.Y. JETS 30	PITTSBURGH 35	TENNESSEE 16

GREEN BAY 31, MINNESOTA 3

PACKIT UP

GREEN BAY HANDS MINNESOTA, BRETT FAVRE A COSTLY LOSS

From news services

They didn't play a game Sunday, but the Bears heard some good news nonetheless.

The Green Bay Packers cruised to a 31-3 romp over their former quarterback Brett Favre and Minnesota on Sunday, all but eliminating the Vikings from the NFL playoff picture.

Aaron Rodgers and Greg Jennings connected for three touchdowns, and Green Bay moved into a first-place tie with the

NECNORTH			
NFC NORTH	W	L	PCT
BEARS	7	3	.700
Green Bay	7	3	.700
Minnesota	3	7	.300
Detroit	2	8	.200

Bears in the NFC North. The Bears hold an edge, however, be-

cause they already have beaten the Packers this season.

Rodgers threw for 301 yards and four touchdowns on 22-of-31 passing, hooking up with Jennings seven times for 152 yards as the Packers (7-3) captured their fourth straight win.

Jennings scored touchdowns in each of the last three quarters, part of a 31-0 run to end the game for Green Bay. James Jones also had a touchdown catch in the win.

"We were aggressive. We attacked them vertically and it opened up the middle of the field," Jennings said.

Rodgers spread the ball out to seven receivers, showing up predecessor Brett Favre for the second time this season.

Favre played it fast and loose as usual, completing just 17 of his 38 passes for 208 yards and an interception that the Packers converted into a touchdown.

Adrian Peterson was an afterthought for the Vikings (3-7), who trailed for most of the game and used one of the NFI's leading rushers only sparingly. Peterson had 14 ef-



Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers (center) pitches the ball to running back Brandon Jackson (left) during the Packers' game against Minnesota on Sunday. **Left:** Vikings quarterback Brett Favre hugs Packers wide receiver Donald Driver after Green Bay defeated the Vikings 31-3. REUTERS PHOTOS

fective carries for 72 yards and caught one pass for 16 yards.

"It sure was hard for me to walk off the field today after a loss like that," said Favre, who was ineffective despite getting one of his top pass catchers back.

Wide receiver Sidney Rice made his season debut for the Vikings after missing the first nine games following hip surgery, finishing with three catches for 56 yards. But his return hardly gave Favre and the offense a spark.

Instead, this 100th meeting between these border-state rivals, likely the last for the 41-year-old Favre, was marked by costly turnovers, untimely penalties and even some sideline shouting by the frustrated Vikings to cast further doubt on coach Brad Childress' future with the team.

The "Go Pack Go!" cry from the Wisconsin transplants and travelers grew louder as the game went on, with Vikings fans getting in a few "Fire Childress!" chants for good measure.

It is turning out to be a miserable year for the Vikings quarterback.

Favre, who threw a career-low seven interceptions last season, has 17 of them this year. Opponents have taken his 22 turnovers and turned them into 71 points over 10 games, and the Vikings—who entered the weekend last in the NFL in giveaway-takeaway ratio—watched their turnover differential fall to minus-13.

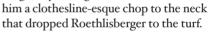
Favre also is facing a review into allegations that he sent lewd text messages to a New York Jets female staff member.

TRIBUNE, REUTERS CONTRIBUTED.

NFL Sunday smackdown

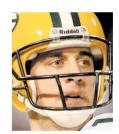
The Pittsburgh-Oakland game was interesting, not for the matchup of the surprising Raiders offense vs. the still-impenetrable Steelers defense, but because of the Richard Seymour WWE-style takedown of Ben Roethlisberger.

After Big Ben completed a touchdown pass for Pittsburgh, Seymour gave



The question is: Did Big Ben say something that set Seymour off? Was Seymour giving Roethlisberger a smackdown that many think he deserves for his off-the-field shenanigans? Or did Seymour simply lose his cool?

We might never find out. Or, we might find out this week. Stay tuned.



OH YES! Aaron Rodgers

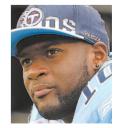
replav

Showed his former mentor Brett Favre how it's done by throwing for 301 yards and four touchdowns in the Packers' big win in Minnesota.



OH NO! Darren McFadden

He's been having a pretty good year, but he couldn't get it going against Pittsburgh, rushing 10 times for 14 yards.



UH-OH! Vince Young

Tennessee's quarterback hurt his thumb in the third quarter and was unable to return.

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

San Diego vs. Denver 7:30 p.m. ESPN

five on five

Kick it

The Bears didn't play, but that doesn't mean you can't. Join us at redeyechicago.com/5on5.

TOPIC

In what way did the Bears lose Sunday even though they didn't play?

What's the real reason Kevin Coble left Northwestern?

Why would the Blackhawks run up the score on Vancouver?

NASCAR's champ was crowned in South Beach on Sunday.
Insert your joke here.

How does a NASCAR title rank with other pro sports titles?



ERNEST WILKINS twitter.com/remixchicago

Same way I lost eating the McRushmore. Google it.

He played basketball at Northwestern. You sure you need another reason?

Because they were wearing those jerseys that look like the new MySpace logo. Loss

The only joke is that people still think NASCAR is a "sport."

Right above the Preakness and right below the World Series of Dice.



SARAH SPAIN

They lost out on another chance to prove the oddsmakers wrong.

Same reason all college athletes quit early—to focus on their studies.

When scoring chances come, you can't pass'em up. Just ask Silvy.

So a skeleton walks into a bar and orders a beer and a mop. Oh, about NASCAR? I got nothin'.

Just slightly more prestigious than a Professional Pillow Fighting Title (totally real, look it up).



ELLIOTT SERRANO

Their secret plot to switch quarterbacks with Green Bay in the dark of night was foiled.

Don't even go there Question Guy. Bravo, Kevin, our prayers are with you and your mom.

They thought they could win all the Blackhawks fans tacos. Oops.

Yadda yadda, LeBron James, yadda yadda, Tiger Woods. (Play laugh track here.)

Just below the Quidditch Cup—and that's not even a real sport.



MARC SILVERMAN twitter.com/waddleandsilvy

Jerry Angelo still is their general manager.

Scared off by Northwestern wanting to play only halfcourt games. And that wall

behind the basket.

To see Roberto Luongo and the Sedin sisters cry. Again.

If a NASCAR champ is crowned and no one is there to see it ... you're probably at a Heat game.

According to Ricky Bobby. "If you ain't first, you're last." NASCAR ain't first.



EVIL SUPERCOMPUTER

Of all the NFL's winners this week, they scored the fewest points.

4G reception just isn't the same in Evanston.

It's inevitable that the Canucks crash every time they play the Hawks.

Jimmie Johnson became the biggest winner in town. Right, LeBron?

Oh, it's rank all right. If I could smell, I'd be barfing megabytes.





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МСТ РНОТО

Johnson wins NASCAR-record fifth straight title

HOMESTEAD, Fla. Carl Edwards won the race and Jimmie Johnson—again—won the Chase.

Edwards held off Johnson to win Sunday's Ford 400 at Homestead-Miami Speedway while Johnson came from behind to claim his NASCAR-record fifth consecutive Sprint Cup Series championship.

"I am just so proud to be in this position," Johnson said. "I think this year we showed what this team is made of.

"We may not have had the most speed, but we had the most heart."

Sunday's results added to the NASCAR title count for Hendrick Motorsports, which won four championships with Johnson's teammate Jeff Gordon in addition to others.

"I thought we lost it three times in this race. It's unbelievable," owner Rick Hendrick said. "We'll be going for six next year."

"We knew we had to come here and beat them," said Chad Knaus, the No. 48 team's crew chief, "and we beat them, and beat them

Johnson's title run was helped in part by difficulties faced by his two other title contenders Kevin Harvick and Denny Hamlin during the course of the race.

Johnson trailed Hamlin by 15 points entering the race, but Hamlin had to recover from an early race spin while Harvick had to overcome a late-race speeding penalty on pit road. In the end, Hamlin trailed Johnson by 39 points and Harvick was 41 behind the champion.

Edwards took early control of the race, leading 64 of the first 69 laps.

Hamlin avoided the wall on his Lap 24 spin, but damaged his front splitter plowing through the grass.

"I appreciate you guys' efforts all year long," Hamlin told crew members over the No. 11 team's radio.

TAKING THE FIFTH

Winning five straight NASCAR titles puts Jimmie Johnson in impressive company. Here are other teams and athletes that have won at least five straight in other sports.

NBA

Boston Celtics, eight NBA Finals championships, 1958-59 to 1965-1966

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

UCLA, seven NCAA tournament championships, 1967-1973.

CYCLING

Lance Armstrong (right), seven Tour de France titles, 1999-2005

NHL

Montreal Canadiens, five Stanley Cup titles, 1956-1960

BASEBALL

N.Y. Yankees, five World Series titles, 1949-1953



GETTY IMAGES

THE DIGIT

2

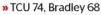
Number of points former NBA star Allen Iverson (left) scored in his Turkish league debut for Besiktas Cola Turka in a 74-67 loss.

Jimmy King and Ray Jackson were honored Sunday during the Michigan Wolverines' game against Gardner-Webb. Rose said he thinks the full Fab Five will reunite soon. The NCAA forced the school to dissociate from Webber and three non-

» Jalen Rose and fellow Fab Fivers

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

- » UIC 74, Rhode Island 68
- » N. Illinois 81, Cardinal Stritch 57
- » Arkansas-Little Rock 63, Illinois St. 54» S. Illinois 72, Austin Peay 65
- TCLL74 Dradley 60





txtable

dog dare

The feast is at hand. Sure, Thanksgiving is this week, but I'm talking about college basketball. The holiday tourneys are fun for all. Here now, my picks. Let's see yours.

> San Diego vs. Denver

藡 7:30 p.m. ESPN

A must-watch, if only

to see how nice it is in

Duke vs.

6:30 p.m.

Blue Devils 81,

Golden Eagles 70

Another season of

hating Duke begins.

Tampa

Bay vs.

Boston

Lightning 3, Bruins O

Lightning. Believe me,

Marquette

Southern California

Chargers 34,

Broncos 24

right now.

ESPN2

Savor it.

6:30 p.m. Vs.

I lived it.

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Fab Five players until 2012.

» Wolves 5, Lake Erie 2
» Sources say Arizona interested

» Sources say Arizona interested in White Sox relief pitcher J.J. Putz.

Al Piemonte Ford offers travel incentive.

To make it more affordable for shoppers to meet face to face with Al Piemonte Ford's credit department, the dealership has added a gift card incentive. Now customers who visit the Credit Department will be rewarded with a \$10 Target Gift Card.

Finance personnel will be on hand to meet with them and access their ability to get financing for a new or used vehicle. Ed Dixon, "The Credit Coach" from the dealership, sees this as another step in making the customer experience "friendly and inviting".

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Trim the fat on this year's feast with budget tips for hosting, crashing and dining out

By Erin M. Sarris

Sure, you'll be counting your blessings this Thanksgiving, but counting your pennies is just as crucial when planning the holiday meal.

Especially this year.

The cost of a traditional Turkey Day spread increased about 1.3 percent, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation. That includes the bird, stuffing, sweet potatoes, pumpkin pie and other usual suspects.

What's a budget-minded gobbler to do? Consider your options. Hosting at home means you call the menu shots, while heading to a restaurant guarantees hassle-free chow. Crashing someone else's shindig alleviates the weight of planning, but you'd rather go hungry than come off as a Thanksgiving mooch.

Whatever your game plan, there are creative ways to slash spending. We talked to experts who shared tips on how to spend wisely Thursday—at home, as a guest or while out to eat.

Crib crashing

Showing up empty-handed to a relative or friend's place for Thanksgiving is not an option. Express your gratitude for their hospitality with these low-cost tips.

Bring it

When invited to someone's home, the bare minimum you should show up with is a small token gift, Post says. Call your host to ask what you can bring, then consider giving a gift that puts your (free) talents to work. Offer to make the menus or place cards, for example, or assemble a mix of holiday songs.

Budget bottles

When on the prowl for a bargain bottle to share, check out the discount carts at **Lush Wine & Spirits** in West Town, Roscoe Village and University Village filled with staff picks priced at less than \$10. Manager Jane Lopes recommends a fruit-friendly Laurent Miquel cabernet-syrah blend that pairs well with Thanksgiving favorites. (Lush is closed for the holiday.

so sneak in on Thanksgiving Eve when the stores are open from noon-10 p.m.)

Show your good sides

Impress with a portable, budget-friendly side dish using lots of ingredients you likely already have on hand. Tan recommends this recipe for mashed potato casserole, using four large russet potatoes, ½ cup milk, ½ cup chicken broth, one stick unsalted butter, two minced garlic cloves, two teaspoons Dijon mustard, two teaspoons salt, four large eggs and one tablespoon chives.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Dice potatoes and boil in water until tender. Combine milk, broth, butter, garlic, mustard and salt in a saucepan and heat until warmed. Drain potatoes & place in large bowl. Whip potatoes with hand mixer, slowly adding broth mixture until creamy. Add eggs one at a time until incorporated and fold in chives. Transfer potatoes to baking dish and bake 30-35 minutes.

Dish up dessert

Pies are pricey, so tote along some dainty Italian butter cookies instead. Little Italy's Ferrara Bakery (2210 W. Taylor St. 312-666-2200) bakes more than 25 types of Italian butter cookies starting at \$7.95 a pound. Mix and match options such as chocolate horseshoes, shells and powdered crescents.

Hosting at home

There's no place like home for the holidays, but all those extra seats at the table can add up quickly. Keep it cheap with these pointers.

Choose wisely

Don't let the turkey cost you an arm and a leg—go for the wings and legs instead, says Joelen Tan, food blogger (**joelens.blogspot.com**) and founder of culinary community What's Cookin' Chicago. Thighs and breasts also are cost-effective options for traditional turkey taste. Most grocers, including **Paulina Meat Market** (3501 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-248-6272), offer custom cuts.

Save with squash

During the fall months, squash is an abundant, delicious option for a quick side dish, Tan says. Gather two acorn squash, two tablespoons olive oil, two tablespoons dark brown sugar and salt and pepper to make this easy Brown Sugar Acorn Squash.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cut the squash in half lengthwise. Remove and discard seeds. Cut the cleaned squash into 1-inch wedges and place on a baking sheet. Combine oil & sugar and coat the squash wedges. Season squash with salt and pepper to taste. Roast in preheated oven for 20-30 minutes or until tender.

Potluck it

Hosting the meal doesn't mean you have to go it alone. Thanksgiving's bounty works best when everyone pitches in, says etiquette guru Lizzie Post, the great-great-grand-daughter of Emily Post. "In my family everyone brings one \$5-\$10 dish, but when put together it's a very large, hearty spread."

Decorate on a dime

Dressing up your Thanksgiving table is as easy as taking a sidewalk stroll, says Zenia Ruiz, co-owner of Pilsen florist Flor del Monte. Pick up acorns, pine cones or crunchy leaves and put them in a shabby chic vase or old tin container for a cheapie centerpiece. Or use your foliage for festive place cards.

Send leftovers

Thanksgiving isn't like a birthday party or shower, when you're obligated to send guests home with a thank-you gift. A plate of leftovers more than suffices as a thoughtful send-off, Post says.

Chow on the town

Ditch the prep work and head straight for the grub with these inexpensive options at spots ranging from a River North hotel to a casual neighborhood bar.

Go traditional

Hotel buffets can soar upward of \$100 per person, but fusion spot **Italiasia** (350 W. Mart Center Drive 312-529-1157) at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza is just \$24.95 for adults. You'll find Thanksgiving staples such as mashed potatoes, turkey and stuffing, as well as dishes with Italian and Asian flair.

Free yourself

You can't say no to free, right? Head to **River Shannon** (425 W. Armitage Ave. 312-944-5087) in Lincoln Park, where the cozy, retro spot serves a free turkey dinner (plus all the trimmings) with a beverage purchase.

Booze a little

Take your pick between roasted turkey with Oktoberfest gravy or Wild Turkey Bourbon-glazed ham on the booze-inspired menu

at **Jake**Melnick's (41
E. Superior St.
312-266-0400).
Sides include
sweet potato

\$15.95

casserole, Woodchuck cider-glazed carrots, sage stuffing and cornbread muffins. The cost is \$15.95 and, yes, you can catch all your favorite football games on TV.

Keep it classic

Horizon Cafe (3805 N. Broadway Ave. 773-883-1565), a cafeteria-style Lakeview diner, is known for its generous family-style portions at affordable prices, and its Thanksgiving feast will be no different. For \$18.99, chow down on salads, soups, hand-carved turkey, mashed or sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce and apple or pumpkin pie.

Chow for charity

Bring one or more canned item to **Kit Kat Lounge and Supper Club** (3700 N. Halsted St. 773-525-1111) and your Thanksgiving meal is a mere \$10, with halfprice drinks to boot. On the menu you'll find roasted turkey breast, whipped potatoes, green bean casserole and cornbread stuffing with sage gravy.

ERIN M. SARRIS IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR. METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM







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8 n m \$7 Flho Room 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

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8 p.m. \$7. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869

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8:30 p.m. Free. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444

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9 p.m. \$5. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160



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8 p.m. \$8-\$10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508

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9:30 p.m. Free. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave 773-276-3600

Ave. 773-275-6800.

WITH: ARMEN RA 8 p.m. \$29. Riviera Theatre, 4746 N. Racine

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CITIZEN BAR

\$4 select burgers; 364 W. Erie St. 312-640-1156.

\$3 burger with first beer purchase: 2426 N. Racine Ave. 773-929-7759

HALSTED'S

\$5.95 burgers: Halfpound burgers come with a choice of french fries or tater tots; 3441 N. Halsted St. 773-348-9696.

HOPS & BARLEY

\$2 burgers with fries; 4359 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-286-7415.

KELSEY'S

\$1-\$3 burgers (4-10 p.m.). Food specials dine-in only and require one drink minimum; 2265 N. Lincoln

Ave. 773-348-1666.

THE KERRYMAN

\$4 for 4 mini-burgers; 661 N. Clark St. 312-335-8121.

KIRKWOOD

\$4 burger with first beer purchase; 2934 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-770-0700.

O'DONOVAN'S

\$2 burger and fries, \$3 turkey and veggie burgers. One drink minimum for food specials; 2100 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-478-2100.

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\$3 burgers with sides; 2922 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-866-2010.

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Lower Back Pain?

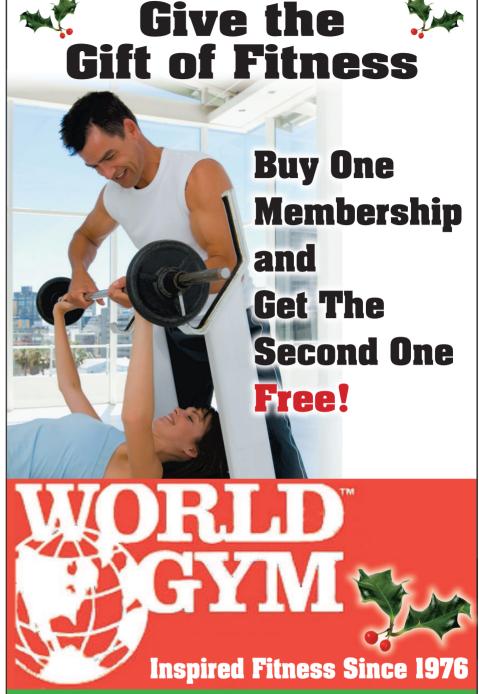
Are You or Someone You Know Suffering From Lower Back Pain?

Northwestern University is seeking volunteers who have lower back pain in order to determine where the pain is recognized in the brain. Participants will also be evaluated to determine why pain goes away for some people while it remains for others. This is a 12 month study consisting of 1 visit at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and 5 MRI scans at Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Olson Pavilion. All visits will take place in downtown Chicago.

Eligible participants must: • Be 18 years or older

- Have a history of lower back pain which began 4-16 weeks ago with pain radiating into the buttocks or legs
- Be able to undergo a MRI (no pacemakers, metallic implants, or spinal implants)

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HIGHLAND

8313 Indianapolis Blvd. (Plaza, across from Wicker Golf Course) Highland, IN 46321 219.838.3481

AURORA 300 N. Highland Ave. Aurora, IL 60506 630.801.7733

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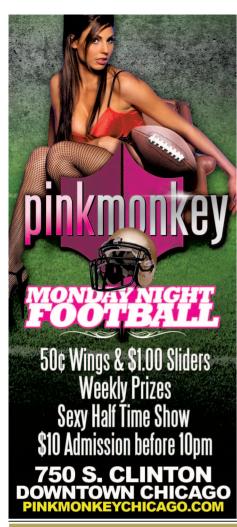
1822 S. Bishop (2 Blocks East of Ashland Ave. located between 18th & 19th) Chicago, IL 60608 312.491.8700

PALATINE

1546 E. Dundee Rd. (Dundee at Route 53, next to Holiday Inn) Palatine, IL 60074 847.991.9300

RACINE

3701 Durrand Ave. (Elmwood Plaza) Racine, WI 53405 262.598.9319





New releases



Kanye West

"My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam

Following the introspective "808s & Heartbreak," where Kanye West channeled "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy's" downtrodden robot Marvin the Paranoid Android, the Chicago rapper makes a return to big ideas and bigger sounds on his triumphant fifth album. Alternately chest-thumping and self-

lacerating, "Fantasy" finds Ye trying to narrow that gap between public perception and reality. "This is more than just my road to redemption," he explains on the measured "Gorgeous," keenly aware of how he's viewed by many in the wake of well-publicized dust-ups with everyone from Taylor Swift to former President George W. Bush. The picture that emerges is one of a musical genius prone to egomania (the X-rated wet dreams of "Hell of a Life") and unflinching self-examination (the epic, nine-minute "Runaway," where West proposes a wedding toast "to the douche bags"). Perhaps no song straddles these polar extremes better than the Bon Iver-sampling "Lost In the World," which transforms the indie rocker's icy, introspective "Woods" into a strangely buoyant dance cut.

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	ILL DEV. COMI AINT	Cilicago	CD3237 1
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AUTO >>			
Auto Biller/L&T	CONFIDENTIAL	Naperville	CB31584
Sales	GARY LANG AUTO GROUP	Chicago	CB32392
CALL CENTER >>			
Appointment Setters	SMS	Buffalo Grove	CB32909
Call Center Manager	RESEARCH FIRM	Oak Brook	CB32191
-	OF		
CUSTOMER SERVI			0000474
Entry Level Openings	GROWING COMPANY	Suburbs	CB32476
Experienced Customer Service	DELTA PRECISION	Elk Grove Village	CB32065
DENTAL >>			
Dental Ceramist	DISTINCTIVE DENTAL STUDIO LTD.	Naperville	CB32510
DRIVER >>			
Class A CDL Drivers	SMITH TRANSPORT, INC.	Various	CB30934
Drivers	PRIME INC.	Chicago	CB32071
Drivers	WEEKEND/SEASONAL/FULL TIME DR	Addison, IL	CB32527
Drivers/Semi-Tractor	DENTON CARTAGE	McCook	CB33195
Independent Contract Drivers	VELOCITY EXPRESS	Chicago	CB32437
Solo Drivers	C.R. ENGLAND	Chicago	CB31118
EDUCATION			
EDUCATION >>	COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY	Crovoloko	CD224E0
Adjunct Faculty Spring 2011		Grayslake	CB32450
Ass't Prof, Energy/Env Tech	ESE Institute/NIU	DeKalb	CB01805
Assignment Cont & Comp Spec	MORAINE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLE		CB31873
DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES	THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN'S	Madison	CB32314
Early Childhood Special Educat	COMPANY CONF'L	Italy-Japan	CB32445
Education	MORTON COLLEGE	Cicero	CB32076
Education	UIC	Chicago	CB31908
Science Laboratory Manager	ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY	Chicago	CB32343
ENGINEERING >>			
Mechanical Engineer	CONTAINER HANDLING SOLUTIONS M	South Chicago Suburbs	CB31941
Product Safety Evaluations	C E CONSULTING	Homer Glen	CB31936
FINANCE >>			
Assistant Director	NORTHEASTERN IL UNIVERSITY	Chicago	CB32444
			0502444

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- 3 Apply for jobs online

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
GENERAL >>			
Entry Level to Leadership Posi	INDUSTRY LEADING COMPANY	Chicagoland	CB32476
Full Time Positions	AUX SABEL	Morris, IL	CB31499
JOB FAIR	BEDFORD PARK MANUFACTURING COM	Chicago	CB31758
Multiple Entry Level Openings	#1 INDUSTRY LEADER	Chicagoland	CB32475
Multiple Openings	GREEN COMPANY	Chicagoland	CB32475
HEALTHCARE >>			
Cardiology Technician	WILL COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOC.	Joliet	CB32315
Care Management Manager	Group Health Cooperative	Madison	CB01813
Doctors & Psychiatrists	US FED GOV'T	Fairbanks, AK	CB32359
ER Physician	TAYLORVILLE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	Taylorville, IL	CB31502
Healthcare Opportunities	COMPANY CONF'L	El Paso, TX	CB32027
HOME CARE NURSES	INGALLS HOME CARE	Chicago	CB32995
Nurse Assessment Coordinator	BRENTWOOD SUBACUTE HEALTHCARE	Burbank, IL	CB31299
Pediatric Occupational Therapi	TURN CENTER	Amarillo, TX	CB32908
Psychologist	Multi-Spec Med Practice	Northern Indiana	CB01808
Registered Nurse	Progressive Housing Inc	Olympia Fields	CB01811
HUMAN RESOURC	LUXURY RETIREMENT COMMUNITY		
Human Resources	MORAINE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLE	Palos Hills	CB32450
Human Resources Assistant	COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY	Grayslake, IL	CB32437
		,	
INFORMATION TEC			
AIX Systems Admin	VERINON TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS L	0	CB32296
Associate Vice Provost	UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS	Lawrence	CB32439
Database Administrator	GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY	University Park	CB32361
Experienced PeopleSoft Develop	UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISO	Madison	CB32222
Information Technology	MICROSOFT	Chicago	CB32908
IT Professionals	WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CHILDR	,	CB32873
Programmer Analyst	CONSUMERS CREDIT UNION	Waukegan	CB32770
System Specialists	UIC	Chicago	CB33023
Web Support Specialist	ISACA	Rolling Meadows	CB01816
INSURANCE >>			
Property Claim Field Adjuster	AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE	Chicago, IL	CB32293
MAINTENANCE >>			
Head Engineer	Draper and Kramer	Chicago	CB01802
MANAGEMENT >>			

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Position	Company	Location	WEB ID			
River's Edge Manager	City of Davenport	Davenport	CB018121			
TRANSIT/PARKING SYSTEM MNGR	CITY OF RACINE	Racine, WI	CB321832			
MANUFACTURING >>						
CNC Machinist	RELIANCE GEAR CORP	Addison, IL	CB320058			
Estimator	THE PIPCO COMPANIES LTD	Peoria	CB324756			
Manufacturing Engineer	CONFIDENTIAL	Elk Grove Village	CB327663			
Operations Technician Trainee	CITGO	Lemont, IL	CB328564			
Working Shop Foreman	CNC MACHINING COMPANY	NW Suburbs	CB320059			
NURSING >>						
Clinical Prevention Specialist	HCMS Group LLC	Chicago	CB017706			
Quality Assurance Nurse	HOME HEALTH AGENCY	Chicago	CB330083			
PRINTING >>						
Letter Press Operator	CONFIDENTIAL	Chicago	CB330233			
PRODUCTION >>						
Production Positions	PROSORT	Aurora	CB330216			
QUALITY CONTROL	->>					
Quality Control Manager	FROZEN FOOD CO.	Chicago	CB311286			
DECEADOUSS						

R	ES	EA	RC	Н	>>

Research Assistant Professor	UNIV. OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO	Chicago	CB327698
Research Scientist/Nurse	RUSH UNIVERSITY	Chicago	CB325864
Research Specialist	UIC	Chicago	CB317752

SALES >>

B to B Inside Sales	SMS	Buffalo Grove	CB329093
Cooling Area Sales Manager	GEORG FISCHER LLC	Chicago	CB324428
Field Sales/Marketing Rep	CAPEZIO/BALLET MAKERS,INC.	Midwest	CB316435
Lottery Retailer Recruiter	Northstar Lottery Group	Chicago	CB018082
Regional Manager-Midwest	Plast-O-Matic Valves, Inc.	Chicago	CB018110
Route Sales Representative	E.A. Berg & Sons	Chicago	CB014255
Sales	LOCAL COMPANY	Chicagoland	CB324769
Sales Consultant	DA-LITE	Warsaw, IN	CB320167
Sales Manager	NATURAL ORGANICS	Chicago	CB318473

SECURITY >>

Security Officers

CB014041

CB018159

CKILLS CRAFTS &	TRADES >>	

North West Suburbs

GLENBROOK SECURITY

Davenport Setup	JOHN GILLEN CO	Cicero	CB325875
Mechanics - Electric Motor Rep	Dreisilker Electric Motors, In	Glen Ellyn	CB018092

SOCIAL SERVICES >>

Substance Abuse Counselor	SOCIAL SERVICES	Wheaton	CB322696
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HAPPY

BIRTHDAY!

Sagittarius *Nov. 22-Dec. 21*

You're tempted

to get in touch

with a former

flame, even

if this person

Mars has you

the sexual

thinking about

magnetism the

shared. Spend

recalling the

smelly socks,

verbal abuse

and annoying

roommates, OK?

a few moments

two of you once

hates your guts



into the dumb blondes or stupid jocks.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Pay attention to your honey's subtle hints. Neptune is creating some momentary dissatisfaction in the bed-

room. Maybe your lover craves a rough approach, but

you're being Mr. Nice Guy or Ms. Sweet Girl.

Pluto is making you less attracted to the people who

used to turn you on. If you liked brainy folks, now you're



Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

Your partner might need to vent this week. The moon is creating extra stress for your sweetheart. Offer your shoulder to cry on. Cook him or her a nice dinner.



Aries March 21-April 19

Cupid is firing an arrow directly at your heart, so be on full alert. You might end up drawn into a painful crush on someone, and this person could be way out of your league. The sun is stirring up major melodrama on the romantic front.



Taurus April 20-May 20

You'll be tempted to come to blows with someone as an emotional moon turns up the intensity. You've had it with your boyfriend always leaving the toilet seat up. You hate it when your girlfriend insists on bringing her three Rottweilers to bed. Stand your ground.



Gemini May 21-June 21

Love means more to you these days than it used to. It's not just about sex and sweat anymore. You're seeking a greater sense of connection with your honey. Venus has you focusing on being with a soulmate, not just a bedmate.



Cancer June 22-July 22

The moon is telling you to be honest with yourself. Maybe a relationship isn't what is best for you right now.



Leo July 23-Aug. 22

If you're in a relationship, you'll flaunt your partner as you head out for a night on the town, engaging in public displays of attention. Mars has you dying to show everybody that you've finally got a lover.



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You'll want to communicate your sexual experiences in gruesome detail as the moon turns you into Chatty Cathy. But pay attention to your audience. Does your always-single girlfriend really want to hear you talk about getting lucky with Lusty Larry?



Libra *Sept. 23-Oct. 23*

Venus is making you ready to forgive and forget. So what if your lady friend kicked you out after you watched porn on her computer? She'll probably let you back in. And who cares if your guy said he wants to date three people at once? You're wiling to share your toys.



Scorpio

Oct. 24-Nov. 21

A relationship is entering one of those on-again, off-again periods. Work to stay balanced amid the madness. The sun is creating some tests for you and your honey, but you can get a good grade on them if you try.



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	2	3	8	9			4	
				3			4 6	
1	6					9		
	63	9	6	7				4
6				4	3	2	1	
		5					2	8
	4			1				
	7			8	9	1	5	

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6	4	1	9	5	2	7	8	3
7	2	5	8	3	1	9	4	6
3	9	8	7	6	4	5	2	1
8	6	2	1	9	5	4	3	7
1	3	9	6	4	7	8	5	2
5	7	4	3	2	8		6	9
2	1	7	5	8	3	6	9	4
4	8	6	2	7	9	3	1	5
9	5	3	4	1	6	2	7	8

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

SATIONE ATTOCKS														
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ACROSS

- 1 Fibs 5 Grumpy or Sneezy 10 Heartburn cause
- 14 Margin 15 Foyt or Unser

- 19 Pump _; lift weights 20 Declare under oath

- 46 Young socialite 47 Mare or stallion

- 61 Heavy volume 62 At no time, to a poet

- 65 Whirlpool
- 66 Fender bender
- 67 Talk excitedly

- - Current of air

- 16 Created
- 17 Thin opening 18 Amphitheater

20

37

41

45

62

65

8

13

6 Cautious 7 High

Highest spade Extends one's

subscription Picture border

Wedding yows

10 Friendly 11 Taurus & Prius

Opposite of

acknowledge 21 Debtor's note 23 Start 25 Dawdles

52

- 22 Envoy's residence 24 Destiny 25 Nerd
- 26 "Bye, Jacques" 29 Owns
- 29 Owns 30 Air freshener brand 34 Be flexible 35 Singer Tormé 36 Truck fuel

- 37 Take _; leave 38 Steal 40 Fraternity letter
- 41 Went off course 43 Wrath
- 44 Not severe 45 Was mistaken
- 48 Diners
- 50 Tavern 51 Commotions
- 54 Retiree's check 58 Norway's capital
- 59 Chinese region whose capital is Lhasa
- 63 Clear the slate
- 64 Rams' mates
- mementos

DOWN

- In case Doing nothing
- Personalities
 __for; content with

26 Over

59

63

66

- 27 Put off 28 Read between lines
 - 29 That girl 31 Moving about
 - 32 Bargains 33 Get away from
 - 35 Soft wet dirt
 - 36 Pass away
 - 38 Brake or accelerator

44 Member of

39 Sphere 42 Priest's home

50

46 Want 47 Attila the

a criminal gang

64

- 49 Threw a party for 50 "For _ sake!" 51 Femur or rib 52 _ up; spent 53 Downhill glider

- 54 Nuisance 55 Des Moines,
- Foreboding sign Bird's home

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60 Prohibit







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'Walking' tall



about last night

LUIS ARROYAVE larroyave @tribune.com

GOT A TIP?

Do you have a hot tip on a celebrity sighting in Chicago? E-mail Luis or tweet him **@luisarroyave**. It was a little more than a year ago that Steven Yeun was preparing to leave his gig at Second City and the apartment he shared with his brother in Lincoln Square for Hollywood. Yeun, raised in Troy, Mich., told his friends and family about his plans immediately so that he couldn't back out.

The move didn't pay off right away. It rarely does. Yeun unsuccessfully auditioned for roles on "Scrubs" and "NCIS: Los Angeles."

In March, Yeun was eating waffles at a Denny's in L.A. when he found out he didn't get the role in the ABC pilot he tried out for an hour earlier. He thought he nailed his audition for "Awkward Situations For Men"—it was the only time he'd ever fist-pumped after an audition—but ABC executives opted to go with someone else.

"I can't chalk that up to anything else but divine intervention," Yeun said Saturday over dinner and Pabst Blue Ribbon at Lillie's Q in Bucktown.

Yeun now can be seen on AMC's new zombie drama, "The Walking Dead," which was watched by 5.3 million viewers when it debuted on Halloween, the highest-rated premiere for an original series in AMC history. Had Yeun landed a role on "Awkward Situations," which never was picked up, he wouldn't have auditioned for "Walking Dead" a month later.

The Sunday night series revolves around the survivors

of a zombie apocalypse and their fight to stay alive. Yeun, who plays Glenn, a former pizza delivery boy, is a fan of the Robert Kirkman comics the show is based on but admitted he isn't a huge fan of the undead genre.

"What I love about the show is it isn't just about zombies," said Yeun, who took part in Stir Friday Night's 15th anniversary improv show later that night at the Chicago Center for the Performing Arts. "You're more scared of the people than the zombies."

Because "Walking Dead" is barely into its first season, the 26-year-old actor hasn't seen his homebody lifestyle in L.A. change all that much. But he did get recognized at a Best Buy in Westwood, Calif., two weeks ago—an experience he called terrifying.

"This guy goes, 'Steve from "Walking Dead"?' "Yeun said. "It was weird. I got heart complications. I wasn't prepared for it."

"Walking Dead" has been picked up for a second season, yet Yeun wants to hold off before calling the young series a hit.

"I don't know if we're a hit yet," Yeun said. "This is my first time leaving Los Angeles since the show premiered. I have no grasp of what's going on. I wish I did."

» For more Luis, go to chicagotribune.com/luis.

SIGHTINGS

- » The ESPN "College GameDay" crew, including Erin Andrews, Kirk Herbstreit and Chris Fowler, had dinner Friday at Joe's Seafood, Prime Steak & Stone Crab. They were in town for the Illinois-Northwestern football game at Wrigley Field.
- »The New Orleans Saints' Reggie Bush was spotted at Lux Bar on Nov. 14. Former "Gilmore Girls" actress Lauren Graham opted for nearby Hugo's Frog Bar & Fish House that day.
- » R&B singer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds unexpectedly joined Billy Currington on stage Wednesday during the country star's show at Joe's Bar. Babyface and Currington sang "Change the World," which Babyface originally recorded with Eric Clapton.



- » The Black Eyed Peas' apl.de.ap (left) and Taboo dined Nov. 14 at Sunda and met up with fellow band member Will.i.am at The Underground afterward.
- » The Blackhawks' Patrick Kane, Jonathan Toews and Duncan Keith celebrated their win over the Anaheim Ducks at Bull & Bear on Nov. 14.

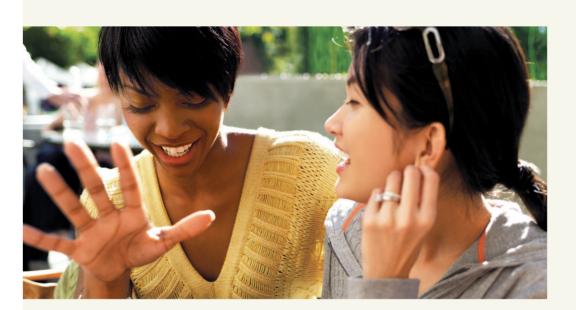


- » Fire star Freddie Ljungberg had dinner with a large group Wednesday at Japonais.
- » British DJ Paul Oakenfold had dinner at N9NE Steakhouse on Friday before his show at the House of Blues.

ABOUT THIS WEEK

» The Bears' Matt Forte, Greg Olsen and Israel Idonije and former "Apprentice" winner Bill Rancic will join forces with Trump Chicago on Tuesday to bring Thanksgiving dinner to the Mercy Home for Boys & Girls.

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Best of the bar

Raise a glass to Charles Joly. The mixologist at The Drawing Room in the Gold Coast was crowned



Joly

"America's Top Bartender" and claimed a \$100,000 prize in Sunday's finale of "On the Rocks," a competitive bartending reality show, according to the Tribune. The winning cocktail for Joly, dubbed Absolut Tea Time, featured Absolut Wild Tea vodka double-strained with Plymouth Sloe Gin, grapefruit and lemon juices, agave syrup, egg white and grated ginger.

A new Lovelace

Step aside, Lindsay Lohan, Malin Akerman, perhaps best known for her role as Silk Spectre in "Watchmen," will replace LiLo in the lead role of "Inferno," a biopic of porn star Linda Lovelace, people.

com reports.



Lohan



Akerman

"Malin was passionate to take this challenge of the role to task, and we feel she has the talent to meet that challenge," said Chris Hanley, the film's producer.

That'll be the Day

Maybe now we'll find out how Abe Lincoln feels about milkshakes. New York maga-



Day-Lewis

zine reports that Daniel Day-Lewis will star in a biopic of Honest Abe to be directed by Steven Spielberg. We've gotta admit, the resemblance—and Day-Lewis' ability to grow facial hair—is pretty uncanny.

\$125.1 million

That was the domestic weekend haul for the biggest box-office debut ever in the "Harry Potter" franchise, set by "The Deathly Hallows: Part 1," making it No.1 in theaters, The Associated Press reported. Its estimated international total was \$330.1 million.